



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

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## **Grand Canyon News Release**

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### **National Park Service Recruitment Event to take place at Albright Training Center on the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park**

**Grand Canyon, Ariz.** – The third annual National Park Service (NPS) Recruitment Event will take place at the Horace T. Albright Employee Training Center on the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park August 6-9, 2007.

This year's event has been organized by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) and the Diversity Recruitment Consortium (DRC) for the NPS. It is intended to help the NPS improve its recruitment of competent, diverse students from institutions of higher learning around the country. This year, 30 students and 22 mentors from all over the country are taking part in the recruitment event. Students and their mentors are coming from 14 historic diverse-serving colleges and universities and various student conservation organizations including NAAEE, the Student Conservation Association (SCA), the National Hispanic Environmental Council (NHEC), and Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS). Through this event, the DRC hopes that participating students will want to compete for positions within the NPS.

“We are very excited to have this year's recruitment event take place at the Grand Canyon,” said Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent Steve Martin. “What better place to recruit a young, diverse work force, which is critical to the future of the National Park Service and its mission.”

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**EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA**

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Through this recruitment event, DRC students will be able to:

- Become better acquainted with the basic qualifications, academic course requirements, and volunteer and work experiences that can result in them getting hired in national park positions;
- Gain knowledge about the NPS and its mission;
- Understand the NPS as an employer;
- Experience life in the national parks as lived by its employees; and
- Connect with mentors to find ways to secure a position with the NPS.

During their stay at the Grand Canyon, students will have the opportunity to meet with current NPS employees from various career fields including administration, interpretation, facility management, resources management; and visitor and resource protection. National Park Service employees will discuss the benefits and challenges of their jobs and share with students their experiences from other NPS sites to illustrate the diversity of jobs and places of significant heritage within the system. In addition to meeting with employees, students will have the opportunity to improve their resume writing and interview skills, participate in one-on-one career counseling, learn more about the Grand Canyon, and take part in a field trip to one of five national monuments in northern Arizona.

The DRC began in July of 2005 when the NPS Recruitment Futures Implementation Team (RFIT) and 13 historic diverse-serving colleges and universities assembled at a conference in Estes Park, Colorado with the goal of forming a private, non-governmental consortium focused on enabling the NPS to recruit, hire and retain qualified students who reflect the diversity of the nation in order to have an effective and relevant workforce. Following the conference, the NPS and those participating colleges and universities unanimously agreed to form the DRC, whose aim would be to attract and provide assistance to a diversified pool of student applicants to compete for positions within the NPS.

The 13 colleges and universities that took part in the first DRC conference in Colorado are Blackfeet Community College (Montana), California State University Monterey Bay (California), Dine College (Arizona), Grambling State University (Louisiana), Haskell Indian Nations University (Kansas), Cankdexsa Cikana Community College (North Dakota), Livingstone College (North Carolina), Palo Verde Community College (California), Saint Mary's University (Texas), Tuskagee University (Alabama), University of the District of Columbia (Washington, D.C.), University of Texas El Paso (Texas), and Wilberforce University

(Ohio). Since that time, Ft. Berthold Community College (North Dakota) has become another partner institution.

For more information about this year's recruitment event, contact Grand Canyon National Park's Diversity Recruitment Team Lead Demmy Vigil at (928) 638-7991.

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